

DOCKET SECTION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

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NOV 19 4 04 PM '97

Before Commissioners: Edward J. Gleiman, Chairman;
George W. Haley, Vice Chairman;
W.H. "Trey" LeBlanc III, H. Edward Quick, Jr.
and George A. Omas

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R97-1

NOTICE OF INQUIRY NO. 2 ON ITEMS OF CLASSIFICATION POLICY AND DMCS IMPROVEMENTS

(November 19, 1997)

This Notice of Inquiry (NOI) solicits participants' views on several matters related to classification policy. It also solicits views on organizational and editorial improvements in the Domestic Mail Classification Schedule (DMCS).¹

The classification policy issues are related to the manner in which the Service presents and designates Bulk Parcel Post in the DMCS; to the Service's apparent intention to determine, by regulation, the minimum number of mailpieces required for eligibility for bulk insurance; and to whether the handling of Hazardous Materials should be identified as a Special Service. Issues pertaining to organizational and editorial improvements relate primarily to the Special Services, but also affect the classes and subclasses of mail to a limited extent.

Comments should be filed no later than 30 days after the issuance of this notice.²

¹ Since some of the issues overlap, designation as classification policy or as a DMCS improvement is not meant to foreclose consideration of all aspects of the issue.

² References to the Service's Request and Attachments thereto are keyed to the hard copy version filed with the Commission.

Part I. Consideration of Classification Policy Issues

A. Presentation and Designation of Bulk Parcel Post

In Attachment A of the Service's Request at page 34, the proposed Bulk Parcel Post category is designated as section 322.2. As a matter of DMCS organization adopted in the reclassification effort, this designation suggests that the Service may have ascribed to Bulk Parcel Post the status of a new subclass of Standard Mail. (See, *for example*, sections 322.1, 322.3, 323.1 and 323.2.) Note also that in the definition of the Parcel Post Subclass (section 322.11), reference is made to proposed section 322.2 (Bulk Parcel Post), along with references to three subclasses of Standard Mail.

If the referenced designation is intended to have substantive classification consequences, is adequate support for this treatment presented in the Service's filing? If the establishment of a new subclass is not intended, should Bulk Parcel Post (if recommended) be assigned a section designation consistent with other designations within the Standard Mail Classification Schedule? If so, would "322.13" be an appropriate designation? If not, what designation would be appropriate?

B. The Postal Service, through witness Plunkett, proposes to establish an option within insurance service for bulk mailers. This option would allow qualifying mailers to purchase insurance by using electronic manifesting. USPS-T-40 at 7-9. If the Commission were to recommend a bulk insurance provision, is the Service's apparent intention to establish a minimum quantity "by regulation" consistent with past interpretations of the scope and extent of the DMCS suggesting that such requirements or limitations be set forth in the DMCS? See *generally* proposed 943.221, which does not include any indication of a threshold "bulk" quantity. (Note: This question does not seek comments on the number of mailpieces that might constitute an appropriate minimum.)

C. If the Commission were to recommend approval of the Service's proposed surcharges for handling hazardous material, would it be appropriate to identify the underlying service as a special service? If so, what terms and conditions should be included in the DMCS language and where should it be located within the Special Services section of the DMCS? What cross-references or conforming changes to other DMCS provisions or schedules would be appropriate?

Part II. Consideration of DMCS Improvements

A. Special Services

In this proceeding, the Postal Service has responded to the Commission's interest in making organizational and editorial improvements in the Special Services provisions in the DMCS by proposing a new numbering system and certain editorial revisions.³ See Postal Service Request, Attachment A at 1-2 and USPS-T-39 at 102. In brief, the Service's numbering system entails regrouping the Special Services into seven categories. For convenience, a summary of the Service's approach appears in Attachment One, Parts A and B, of this notice.

1. The Commission presents for preliminary consideration extensive editorial changes in selected Special Services provisions. These appear in Attachment Four of this notice. In particular, the Commission seeks comments on whether these types of changes improve the clarity of the DMCS. The changes are not intended to alter the substance of the provisions.

³ The Commission expressed this interest in its Notice of Inquiry (NOI) No. 1 (issued November 14, 1996) in Docket No. MC96-3, Special Services Reform. The Commission deferred to commenters' suggestions that consideration of changes affecting most, or all, of the Special Services be postponed to another proceeding. See Comments of United States Postal Service in Response to Commission NOI No. 1 (December 3, 1996); and Comments of the Office of the Consumer Advocate in Response to NOI No. 1 (December 3, 1996).

The draft versions presented here attempt to incorporate the Service's proposed renumbering, but may not do so in every case. Similarly, cross-references to other special services or subclasses of mail attempt to reflect the Service's proposal, but may not do so in every case (such as with references to Single-Piece Standard Mail, which the Service proposes to eliminate). In addition, intervening decisions of the Governors affecting the DMCS and DMCS-related proposals in the Service's instant request are not necessarily reflected in the Commission's draft versions, since the Commission's main interest is in soliciting commenters' views on the overall approach presented in Attachment Four. If support for the approach exists, further consideration will be given to insuring that conforming changes are made to all affected provisions and schedules.

2. Attachment Three of this notice contains a working draft, prepared by Commission staff, of Forwarding and Return provisions incorporating DMCS changes recently approved by the Governors of the Postal Service in their October 5, 1997 decision in Docket No. MC97-4, Bulk Parcel Return Service and Shipper-Paid Forwarding (BPRS and SPF, respectively).⁴ The draft also reflects the Service's proposed elimination of Single-Piece Standard Mail. The addition of a new forwarding-and-return option has added complexity to this provision. Would more extensive editorial revisions improve the clarity of this provision? Among other things, would it be useful or appropriate to move the description of the "factor" to the General Definitions section?

3. In the Special Services section of Attachment A of the Service's Request, beginning at page 64, the Postal Service proposes to eliminate the words "Classification Schedule" in the title of each Special Service. It is presumed, therefore, that the individual Special Service sections no longer would be referred to as

⁴ These changes provide mailers with new forwarding and return options. BPRS charges a flat fee of \$1.75 for eligible "Standard A" parcels returned to designated locations for bulk pickup by the mailer or for bulk delivery by the Postal Service. SPF allows mailers the option of paying separately for forwarding and return services. The SPF rate for forwarding (for

classification schedules. However, in numerous instances the term "classification schedule" is used in reference to a particular Special Service. *See, for example*, sections 911.31, 922.233, 931.12, 944.61, and 952.61. Is the continued use of the term "classification schedule" appropriate when referring to individual Special Services, given the Postal Service's proposed change in the titles of each Special Service?

4. In Attachment A of the Service's Request at page 66, should the section designation "921.22" be changed to "912.22"?

5. In Attachment A of the Service's Request at page 67, should the section designation "921" and following title, "POST OFFICE BOX AND CALLER SERVICE," be deleted since Caller Service and Post Office Box Service now appear to be identified as two separate Special Services? (*Compare* the designation of Caller Service as "921.1" and Post Office Box Service as "922.2.")

6. In Attachment A of the Service's Request at page 69, should the reference to "922.32" (which appears in section 922.233) be changed to read "922.232"?

7. In Attachment B of the Service's Request at 66, Schedule 1000, there is a reference to "Fee Schedule 932." Should "932" be changed to "931"? Also, should this reference have been underlined to indicate its status as a proposed addition to the DMCS?

8. In Attachment A, should the references to "Insured mail" (appearing in sections 932.41, 945.21, 946.21, 951.71 and 952.61) be changed to read "Insurance" in view of the Service's proposed change in the title of Schedule 943 (to "Insurance")? See Attachment A of the Service's Request at page 79.

one year) is the applicable single-piece rate. The rate for returns to participating BPRS mailers is a flat rate of \$1.75.

B. Consideration of General Editorial and Organizational Improvements

1. As a result of the recent reclassification effort, Standard Mail includes mail formerly referred to as Third- and Fourth-Class Mail. A review of documents filed in this case reveals extensive use of references to these former classes in terms of "Standard A" and "Standard B." Given the widespread use of these conventions, is it appropriate to amend the DMCS to reflect this practice? Moreover, would it be useful and appropriate to further distinguish the subclasses now referred to collectively as "Standard B" by associating the designation "B" with Parcel Post and Bound Printed Matter and the designation "Standard C" with Special and Library? See Attachment Two.

2. In Attachment A of the Service's Request, the Postal Service proposes, in numerous instances, to substitute the word "specified" for the word "prescribed." In several instances, the phrase "as specified by the Postal Service" is substituted for the phrase "as prescribed by regulation." See, *for example*, sections 912.31, 951.41 and 952.31. Are these proposed substitutions (and others the Service makes, such as the use of "under" in place of "in accordance with") appropriate in every instance?

By the Commission.

(S E A L)



Margaret P. Crenshaw
Secretary

**Summary of the Service's R97-1 Proposal
for Renumbering and Regrouping the Special Services**
(minor title changes not identified here)

Designations		Special Service
Current	Service's Proposal	
SS-1	911	Address Corrections
SS-11	912	ZIP Coding of Mailing Lists*
SS-10 & SS-3	921	Post Office Boxes, Caller Service
SS-2	931	Business Reply Mail
SS-20	932	Merchandise Return
SS-12	933	On-Site Meter Setting
N/A	934	Prepaid Reply Mail
SS-5	941	Certified Mail
SS-14	942	Registered Mail
SS-9	943	Insured Mail
SS-6	944	Collect On Delivery
SS-16	945	Return Receipts
SS-15	946	Restricted Delivery
SS-4	947	Certificate of Mailing
N/A	948	Delivery Confirmation
SS-13	951	Parcel Airlift
SS-18	952	Special Handling
SS-19	961	Stamped Envelopes
SS-19A	962	Stamped Cards
SS-8	971	Money Orders
1000	1000	Fees

*also includes Correction of Mailing Lists, Address Changes for Election Boards and Registration Commissions, and Corrections Associated with Arrangement of Address Cards in Carrier Delivery Sequence

Source: Adapted from USPS Docket No. R97-1 Request, Attachment A at 2.

**Identification of Basic Regrouping of the Special Services
in the Service's Docket No. R97-1 Request**

<i>Subdivision</i>	<i>Special Services within Subdivision</i>
910	mailing list services (Address Correction, ZIP Coding, etc.)
920	post office boxes and caller service
930	both types of reply mail, merchandise return, meter service
940	certified, insured, and delivery-related services
950	parcel airlift and special handling
960	stamped envelopes and cards
970	money orders

Potential Revised Designations in the DMCS for Standard Mail

320 DESCRIPTION OF SUBCLASSES

321 Subclasses Limited to Mail Weighing Less than 16 Ounces (Standard A)

322 Subclasses Limited to Mail Weighing 16 Ounces or More (Standard B)

323 Subclasses With No 16-Ounce Limitation (Standard C)

Working Draft of Section 353

Section 353 - Forwarding and Return

353 Forwarding and Return

353.1 Regular, Enhanced Carrier Route, Nonprofit and Nonprofit Enhanced Carrier Route Subclasses (section 321)

Undeliverable-as-addressed Standard Mail mailed under section 321 will be returned on request of the mailer, or forwarded and returned on request of the mailer. Undeliverable-as-addressed combined First-Class and Standard pieces will be returned as specified by the Postal Service. Except as provided in Schedule SS-21, the applicable First-Class Mail rate is charged for each piece receiving return only service. Except as provided in Schedule SS-22, charges for forwarding-and-return service are assessed only on those pieces which cannot be forwarded and are returned. Except as provided in Schedules SS-21 and SS-22, the charge for those returned pieces is the appropriate First-Class Mail rate for the piece plus that rate multiplied by a factor equal to the number of section 321 Standard pieces nationwide that are successfully forwarded for every one piece that cannot be forwarded and must be returned.

[Note: References to Special Services reflect existing numbering system.]

**Commission-proposed Revisions
to Selected Special Services Provisions in the DMCS**

The following material presents sample versions of revised DMCS provisions for selected Special Services. The changes are based primarily on the DMCS as published in July 1997.

The changes are not intended to change substantive aspects of the offerings; instead, as the Commission discussed in Notice of Inquiry No. 1 (issued November 14, 1996) in Docket MC96-3, Special Services Reform, they are intended to improve clarity, consistency, and organization.

The numbering, in most instances, corresponds to the system the Service has proposed in Docket No. R97-1. New designations (corresponding to the Service's numbering proposal) have been added where needed for purposes of this presentation, such as the assignment of 922 to Caller Mail. The sample versions also include nomenclature changes, such as substitution of "Mailing Receipt" for "Certificate of Mailing." Similarly, "Delivery Receipt" is substituted for "Return Receipts."

912 — Mailing List Services

912.1 **Definition.** Mailing List Services is a special postal service that enables an eligible mailer to obtain the following services:

- a. correction of a mailing list;
- b. ZIP Coding of a mailing list; and
- c. arrangement of address cards in delivery sequence.

This service also enables an election board or voter registration commission to obtain residential change-of-address information.

912.2 **Description.** This service provides certain mailers with several methods of improving address quality with the Postal Service's assistance.

- a. *Correction of mailing lists.* This service provides current information concerning name and address lists or correct information concerning occupant mailing lists.
 - (1) The Postal Service provides the following corrections to name and address lists:
 - (A) deletion of names to which mail cannot be delivered or forwarded;
 - (B) correction of incorrect house, rural, or post office box numbers; and
 - (C) furnishing of new addresses, including ZIP Codes, when permanent forwarding orders are on file for addressees who have moved.

This service does not entail the addition of new names to the list.

- (2) The Postal Service provides the following corrections to occupant lists:
 - (A) deletion of numbers representing incorrect or non-existent street addresses;

- (B) identification of business addresses and rural route addresses, to the extent known; and
- (C) grouping of corrected material by delivery route.

This service does not entail the addition of or correction of street address numbers.

- b. *Availability.* Correction of mailing list service is available only to:

- Members of Congress
- Federal agencies
- State government departments
- Municipalities
- Religious organizations
- Fraternal organizations
- Recognized charitable organizations
- Concerns or persons that solicit business by mail

- c. *ZIP Coding of mailing lists.* This service provides mailers with ZIP Code addresses in areas served by postal facilities serving multiple ZIP Codes. Addresses are sorted to the finest possible ZIP Code sortation.
- d. *Delivery sequencing of address cards.* This service provides for the removal of incorrect addresses, notation of missing addresses, and addition of missing addresses.
- e. *Residential change-of-address information.* This service is available only to election boards or voter registration commissions for obtaining an addressee's current address if such address is known to the Postal Service.

912.3 Conditions.

- a. A mailer seeking correction of a mailing list or arrangement of address cards in sequence of carrier delivery must submit the list or cards as prescribed by the Postal Service.
- b. Gummed labels, wrappers, envelopes, stamped cards, or post cards indicative of one-time use will not be accepted as mailing lists.

912.4 **General provision.** Corrected lists are returned to customers at no additional charge.

912.5 **Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 924.

921 — Post Office Boxes

921.1 **Definition.** Post Office Boxes is a special postal service that provides a customer with a private, locked receptacle for the receipt of mail and with access to the box during hours when the lobby of a postal facility is open.

921.2 **Description.** This service allows a post office box holder to ask the Postal Service to deliver to the post office box all mail properly addressed to the box holder. If the post office box is located at the post office indicated on the mailpiece, the Postal Service will transfer the mailpiece to the post office box without additional charge, in accordance with Postal Service regulations.

Limitations.

- (a) The Postal Service may limit the number of post office boxes used by a customer.
- (b) Post Office Boxes service is not available to a customer whose sole purpose in using the service is to obtain free forwarding or transfer of mail by filing change-of-address orders.
- (c) Boxholders at a postal facility primarily serving academic institutions (or the students of such institutions) are not eligible for refunds of box fees.

921.3 **Fees.** The fees for this service, including the fees for boxes at postal facilities serving academic institutions (or the students of such institutions), are set forth in Fee Schedule 921.

922 — Caller Mail

922.1 **Definition.** Caller Mail is a special postal service that enables an eligible customer to obtain mail addressed to a box number at a designated window or loading dock.

922.2 **Description.** This service involves a customer's use of a post office box number as an address medium; however, the customer's mail is not delivered to a post office box, but is delivered to the customer at a designated window or loading dock. The Postal Service may require a customer to use Caller Mail service if the Service determines that the customer's mail volume requires such service. A customer may reserve a caller number.

a. Availability.

(1) Caller Mail service is available at postal facilities designated by the Postal Service.

(2) Caller Mail service is provided based on the amount of mail a customer receives and the number of boxes a customer uses at a particular facility.

b. Limitation. Caller Mail service is not available to a customer whose sole reason for using this service is to obtain free forwarding or transfer by filing change-of-address orders.

922.3 **Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 922.

923 — Address Correction

923.1 **Definition.** Address Correction is a special postal service that enables a mailer to obtain an addressee's current mailing address, if known to the Postal Service. If the addressee's current mailing address is not known to the Postal Service, this service enables the mailer to learn the reason why the Postal Service could not deliver the mailpiece as addressed.

923.2 **Description.** This service informs the mailer of both the original address on the mailpiece and the address at which the addressee is currently receiving mail, if the latter is known to the Postal Service. If the mailpiece cannot be delivered, this service notifies the mailer of the reason the mailpiece could not be delivered.

- a. *Availability.* Address Correction service is available to mailers of postage prepaid mail.
- b. *Limitation.* Address Correction service is not available for mail addressed for delivery by military personnel at a military installation.

923.3 **Conditions.**

- a. Address Correction service is mandatory for Periodicals class mail.
- b. Mail, other than Periodicals class mail, must bear a request for Address Correction service.

923.4 **Fees.**

- a. Address Correction service is provided at no charge for a correction incidental to the return of the mailpiece to the mailer.
- b. The fees for all other forms of Address Correction service are set forth in Fee Schedule 923.

933 — On-site Meter Service

- 933.1** **Definition.** On-site Meter Service is a special postal service under which the Postal Service provides, on the premises of a mailer or meter manufacturer, certain services related to the use of a postage meter.
- 933.2** **Description of Service.** This service enables a mailer or meter manufacturer to obtain the following meter-related services from the Postal Service: checking a meter in or out of service, setting a meter or examining a meter.
- a. *Availability.* On-site Meter Service is available on both a scheduled and unscheduled basis.
- b. *Limitation.* Emergency meter service is available only to mailers or meter manufacturers enrolled in a scheduled program.
- 933.3** **Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 933.

941 — Certified Mail

- 941.1 Definition.** Certified Mail is a special postal service that provides a mailer with evidence of mailing and guarantees retention of a record of delivery at the post office of delivery for a specified period.
- 941.2 Description.** This service provides a mailer with a mailing receipt which, upon request, may include the time of acceptance by the Postal Service. This service also requires the Postal Service to retain a record of delivery at the post office of delivery for a specified period. This service does not provide the mailer with the record of delivery, but evidence of delivery may be obtained as indicated in 941.4. A notice of attempted delivery is left at the delivery address if the first delivery attempt is unsuccessful.
- a. *Availability.* Certified Mail service is available to mailers of matter mailed as First-Class Mail.
 - b. *Limitation.* A mailing receipt may be obtained only if the article is mailed at a post office, branch or station, or given to a rural carrier.
 - c. *Copies.* A mailer may obtain a copy of the mailing receipt on terms specified by the Postal Service.
- 941.3 Condition.** Certified Mail must be deposited as specified by the Postal Service.
- 941.4 Related Special Services.** Delivery Receipt service (945) and Restricted Delivery service (946) may be obtained in conjunction with Certified Mail service upon payment of the applicable fee.
- 941.5 Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 941.

944 — Collect on Delivery

944.1 **Definition.** Collect on Delivery (COD) is a special postal service that enables an eligible mailer to mail an item for which the mailer has not been paid and to have the Postal Service collect the price of the item and certain other charges from the addressee upon delivery of the item.

944.2 **Description.** Under COD service, the Postal Service collects from the addressee the price of the article mailed, applicable postage and fees, and, if the addressee consents in advance, anticipated or past due charges for other COD transactions. This service provides for collection of amounts not exceeding \$600. This service provides the mailer with a receipt for each item mailed COD. The service also enables a mailer of an item sent COD to change the addressee or alter the COD charges upon submission of the appropriate form and payment of the applicable fee. Notices concerning delivery status are provided, as appropriate.

a. *Availability.* COD service is available in connection with the delivery of postage prepaid mail sent as Express Mail, First-Class Mail, and the following subclasses of Standard Mail: Single Piece, Parcel Post, Bound Printed Matter, Special and Library.

b. *Limitations.* This service is not available for:

- (1) collection agency purposes;
- (2) returning merchandise about which some dissatisfaction has arisen, unless the new addressee has consented in advance to such return;
- (3) sending a bill or statement of indebtedness, without an accompanying item, notwithstanding the mailer's representation that the addressee has consented to this method of collection;
- (4) sending parcels containing motion-picture films mailed by exhibitors to motion-picture manufacturers, distributors, or exchanges;
- (5) items that have not been ordered by the addressee.

- c. *Insurance.* COD service provides the mailer with insurance against loss of, rifling of, or damage to the item mailed.
- d. *Payment.* The Postal Service guarantees delivery to the mailer of the financial instrument issued after collection of COD charges, but the Postal Service's liability is limited to U.S. Postal Money Orders.
- e. *Copies.* The mailer may obtain a copy of the original mailing receipt.
- f. *Forwarding and return.*
 - (1) A mailer of COD mail guarantees payment of return postage, unless otherwise specified on the mailpiece.
 - (2) Postage at the applicable rate is charged to an addressee, entitled under Postal Service regulations to delivery to the mailing address, for Standard Mail sent COD –
 - (A) when an addressee requests delivery of COD mail that was refused when first offered for delivery; and
 - (B) for each delivery attempt to an addressee after the second attempt.

944.3 **Conditions.** COD mail must be identified and deposited as specified by the Postal Service.

944.4 **Claims.**

- a. A claim for compensation for complete loss may be filed only by the mailer.
- b. A claim for compensation for damage or for partial loss may be filed by either the mailer or the addressee.
- c. COD claims for compensation must be filed within a specified period from the date the item was mailed.

944.5 **Related Special Services.** Registered Mail service (942) (if mailed as First-Class Mail), Restricted Delivery service (946), and Special Handling service (952) may be obtained in conjunction with COD service upon payment of the applicable fee.

944.6 **Fees.** The fees for this service, including alteration of COD charges and change of addressee, are set forth in Fee Schedule 944.

945 — Delivery Receipt

945.1 **Definition.** Delivery Receipt is a special postal service that provides a mailer with evidence that mail has been received.

945.2 **Description.** This service provides a mailer with documentation showing that mail has been delivered. The type of mail matter eligible for this service and the extent of documentation provided depend on whether Delivery Receipt service is purchased at the time of mailing or after mailing.

a. Availability.

(1) Delivery Receipt service purchased at the time of mailing is available to mailers of:

(A) Express Mail and merchandise sent either as Priority Mail or under one of the following subclasses of Standard Mail: Single Piece, Parcel Post, Bound Printed Matter, Special and Library; and

(B) matter eligible for Certified Mail service, Collect on Delivery service, Insured Mail service (if insured for more than \$50), and Registered Mail service.

(2) Delivery Receipt service purchased after mailing is available to mailers of matter described in paragraph (1), with the exception of merchandise sent as Priority Mail or Standard Mail.

b. Documentation.

(1) Delivery Receipt service purchased at the time of mailing provides the mailer with the signature of the addressee or addressee's agent, the date of delivery, and the delivery address, if different from the address on the mailpiece.

(2) Delivery Receipt service purchased after mailing provides the mailer with the date of delivery and the name of the person who signed for the article.

- c. *Copies.* A mailer may obtain a copy of the Delivery Receipt without additional charge if the original receipt is not received within a specified period after mailing.

945.3 **Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 945.

946 — Restricted Delivery

946.1 **Definition.** Restricted Delivery is a special postal service that enables a mailer to direct the Postal Service to limit delivery to the addressee or the addressee's agent.

946.2 **Description.** This service provides the mailer with a means of limiting delivery to a specified addressee or that addressee's authorized agent. The Postal Service retains a record of delivery for a specified period. A mailer may purchase this service either at the time of mailing or after mailing.

a. *Availability.* Restricted Delivery service is available for Certified Mail (941), Registered Mail (942), Insured Mail (943) (if insured for more than \$50) and Collect on Delivery (944).

b. *Limitations.*

- (1) The addressee must be a natural person specified by name.
- (2) If this service is purchased after mailing, a mailer is not eligible for a refund of the fee for this service or for communications charges if the request for Restricted Delivery service reaches the post office of delivery after delivery has taken place.

946.3 **Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 946.

947 — Mailing Receipt

- 947.1** **Definition.** Mailing Receipt is a special postal service that provides evidence of mailing.
- 947.2** **Description.** This service provides the mailer with documentation showing that mail has been presented to the Postal Service for mailing.
- a. *Availability.* Mailing Receipt service is available to mailers of any class of mail.
 - b. *Limitations.* This service does not entail retention of a record of mailing at the post office of acceptance and does not provide evidence of delivery.
 - c. *Copies.* A mailer may obtain a copy of a mailing receipt on terms specified by the Postal Service.
- 947.3** **Related Special Services.** Special Handling service (952) and Parcel Airlift service (951) may be obtained in conjunction with Mailing Receipt service if the matter mailed is eligible for such service and the applicable fee is paid.
- 947.4** **Fees.** Fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 947.

951 — Parcel Airlift

- 951.1 Definition.** Parcel Airlift is a special postal service that provides air transportation, on a space-available basis, for certain parcels mailed to or from military post offices outside the contiguous 48 states.
- 951.2 Description.** This service provides the mailer with an option to obtain, for a fee, service for Standard Mail on a more expedited basis than generally available for such mail.
- a. *Availability.* Parcel Airlift service is available for Standard Mail that does not exceed 60 inches in combined length and girth and that does not weigh more than 30 pounds.
 - b. *Forwarding and return.* Forwarding is available for all mail sent Parcel Airlift. Return service, in accordance with provisions applicable to Standard Mail, is limited to mail sent Parcel Airlift that is destined for delivery within the contiguous 48 states.
- 951.3 Conditions.** Mail sent Parcel Airlift must be endorsed and deposited as specified by the Postal Service.
- 951.4 Related Special Services.** Mailing Receipt service (901), Delivery Receipt service (902) (if insured for more than \$50), Insured Mail service (906), Restricted Delivery service (925) (if insured for more than \$50) and Special Handling (926) may be obtained in conjunction with Parcel Airlift service upon payment of the applicable fee.
- 951.5 Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 927.

952 — Special Handling

- 952.1 Definition.** Special Handling is a special postal service that provides preferential handling for eligible mail, to the extent practicable, during processing and transportation.
- 952.2 Description.** This service enables a mailer to obtain preferential handling for certain mail that is not within a class that ordinarily receives preferential treatment.
- a. *Availability.* Special Handling service is available for First-Class Mail and the following subclasses of Standard Mail: Single-Piece, Parcel Post, Bound Printed Matter, Special and Library.
 - b. *Forwarding and return.* If undeliverable as addressed, Special Handling mail is forwarded to the addressee without additional charge. First-Class Mail is forwarded without additional charge; postage for Standard Mail that is forwarded is due upon delivery.
- 952.3 Conditions.**
- a. Mail with Special Handling service must be identified and deposited as specified by the Postal Service.
 - b. This service is mandatory for matter requiring special attention in handling, transportation and delivery.
- 952.4 Related Special Services.**
- Insured Mail service (943), Parcel Airlift service (951), Collect on Delivery service (944), and Merchandise Return service (932) (commercial shippers only) may be obtained in conjunction with Special Handling service upon payment of the applicable fee.
- 952.5 Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 952.

971 — U.S. Postal Money Orders

971.1 **Definition.** U.S. Postal Money Orders is a special postal service that provides a purchaser with a financial instrument for payment of a specific amount of money.

971.2 **Description.** This service enables a purchaser to obtain a money order issued by the Postal Service. It includes a purchase receipt at no additional charge.

a. Limitations.

(1) The maximum amount for which a money order may be purchased is \$700.

(2) The Postal Service, by regulation, may impose restrictions on the number and dollar value of money order sales.

b. Replacement of spoiled or incorrectly prepared money orders.

Spoiled or incorrectly prepared money orders are replaced at no charge if the replacement is issued on the original purchase date. The Postal Service may charge a fee, equal to the applicable money order fee, for spoiled or incorrectly prepared money orders that are replaced after the original purchase date.

971.3 **Claims.** Inquiries and claims may be filed by the purchaser, the payee, or the endorsee.

971.4 **Fees.** The fees for this service are set forth in Fee Schedule 971.